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A NEW COLLEGIUM AT ROME

IN the month of July, 1911, I found in the shop of a Roman dealer in antiquities a Latin inscription (Fig. 1) which was of such interest and importance that it seemed unwise to let it lie longer unnoticed. I therefore brought it to the attention of the Director of the Museo delle Terme, Dr. Roberto Paribeni, who promptly secured it for the Museum, and most kindly suggested that I publish it at my convenience. The inscription is cut, in fine letters of the early imperial period, on a slab of marble 0.51 m. in height and 1.125 m. in width. Small fragments are missing at three corners. The text is as follows:

coN C O R D I A E · A V G
S A C R V M

C · C L O D I V S · C · F · M A G N V S · E T · C ·
C L O D I V S · C R E S C E N S · P A T E R · A R G
I M A G I N E S · I I I · E T · S I G N V M · C V M · S V I S · O R N A M E N T I S · E T
B A S I · P I G M E N T A R I S · E T · M I N I A R I S · S V A · P E C · D · D

The importance of the cult of Concordia in its relation to the imperial family is well known, being attested both in inscriptions and on coins. In *CIL.* II, 3349, for example, we find Augustus, Pax Perpetua, and Concordia Augusta united in the same inscription, and dedications to Concordia or to Concordia Augusta on behalf of the emperors are common.¹ It is, therefore, scarcely open to doubt that the *imagines* of the fifth line represented three members of the imperial family who were thus associated with Concordia Augusta. Strong support for

¹ For example, *CIL.* VI, 91-94 ; VIII, 15447 ; cf. De Ruggiero, *Dizionario*, II, 572, and Roscher, *Lexikon*, I, 916 f.

this view comes from the inscribed bases, discovered about twelve years ago at Ephesus, which record the munificence of C. Vibius Salutaris in presenting silver statues of Diana, together with those of Divus Augustus and King Lysimachus,



FIGURE 1. — INSCRIPTION FROM ROME.

for the decoration of the theatre. On one of these bases we read *Dianam argenteam item imagines argentea(s) duas, unam divi Aug. (a)liam phyles sua pecunia fecit*; and on another, *Dianam argenteam item imagines argenteas duas (u)nam Lysimachi*¹ *et aliam phyles sua pecunia fecit* (CIL. III, 14195, 5 and 6). Similarly, in the present case the *imagines* of members of the imperial family, and doubtless the statue of Concordia Augusta as well, were of silver, especially since they were the gift of men one of whom, at least, was engaged in the silver business, either as a dealer or as an artisan.

In order to receive such a gift, the *pigmentarii et miniarii*² must have had a regular organization and headquarters in Rome; in other words, they formed a professional *collegium*, which comes to light for the first time in this inscription.³ That it was customary for men to present statues of gods or of emperors for the adornment of the *schola* or *templum* of a colle-

¹ Lysimachus is the king whose kindness to the Ephesians is recorded by Strabo, XIV, p. 640.

² It is worth noting that *miniarius* is not found in the lexicons.

³ The *pigmentarii vici lorarii* of VI, 9796 were not a *collegium*, as Waltzing points out in *Étude historique sur les Corporations*, IV, p. 36.

gium by which they had been honored is amply attested in the inscriptions. Of the many examples that might be cited, two or three will suffice: XIV, 33, *T. Annius Lucullus . . . honoratus signum Martis dendrophor(is) Ostiensium d. d.*; VI, 1936, *In honorem domus August(ae) Ti. Claudius Secundus . . . viatoribus (trium)vir(um) et (quattuor) vir(um) scholam cum statuis et imaginibus ornamentisque omnibus sua impensa fecit*; VI, 1872, *Ti. Claudio Esquil(ina) Severo, . . . patrono corporis piscatorum et urinator(um) . . . quod hic primus statuas duas, una(m) Antonini Aug(usti) domini n(ostri), aliam Iul(iae) Augustae dominae nostr(ae), sua pecunia posuerit.*

In what part of Rome the *collegium* of the *pigmentarii et miniarii* had its headquarters cannot be determined with certainty. The inscription was said to have been found between the Tiber and Monte Testaccio, but such stories are not always worthy of belief.

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